I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-

Qated: August 21, 2008

Signature: 4 (Dennis M. Smid. Esq.) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 2168

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-1069

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shoichi Awai

Application No.: 10/800,561

: Group Art Unit: 2168

Filed: March 15, 2004

: Examiner: A. J. Sanders

For: DATA SERVICE APPARATUS FOR

BACKING UP DATA

AMENDMENT

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 15, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1 and 3-7, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows: